

16 February 1961

The Director's Briefing Memo on USIB

**SUBJECT: Military Requirements and Priorities for Production
of National Intelligence Surveys**

1. General Breitweiser urges the NIS Committee and its member agencies to institute wherever possible procedural changes which will expedite NIS production to meet the comprehensive requirements of the military establishment.
2. The NIS Committee for some time has been actively concerned with the problem and has effected noticeable improvement in certain NIS units; for example, doubling the annual production rate of NIS Key Personalities from 8 to 16, and increasing that of Chapter I from 3 to 12.
3. Further procedural and organizational efficiencies, leading to increased NIS production, can be expected as a result of the present re-examination of the problem by the member agencies with the full support of their chiefs. Nevertheless, cutbacks and diversions of staffs ranging from 15% to 25% in some of the NIS producing components have reached a point where production can no longer be adequately sustained.
4. In this respect, General Willems has stated that the
"..... magnitude of the redirection required continues to be approximately 20% of the effort now devoted to the NIS program by Army if increasing essential requirements in the field of scientific and technical intelligence are to be met." It should be further noted that CIA's support for State

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has been reduced 18% over the past two years. These actions are indicative of the recent cutbacks in NIS support, which can be only partially offset by procedural changes without prejudice to the utility of the NIS.

5. In broad terms of requirements, 8 equivalent NIS a year can be considered a maximum level of production. This level was sustained throughout the post-Korean War period to FY 1960. The Intelligence Agencies should and can maintain this level of production with only nominal increases in some producing components by further procedural and organizational efficiencies, and by material reduction in diversion of NIS staffs.

6. In consideration of General Breitwieser's paper and the foregoing, I suggest the following as the position the Board might reasonably take on this matter:

"The Board discussed the memorandum to the Chairman from the Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff, 'Military Requirements and Priorities for Production of National Intelligence Surveys' dated 6 February 1961. The Board noted the survey's emphasis on early initial completion and accelerated maintenance of the NIS program as now constituted and, in view of production of 8 equivalent NIS as the annual minimum indicated by requirements, urged full support by the contributing agencies for continuing NIS Committee efforts to develop feasible economies in procedures which will contribute to NIS production at the maximum rate consistent with Intelligence Agency capabilities."

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